

## Message Text

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14

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FOR POLADS

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TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, LA, JA, AO, SU, FI

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - JANUARY 8

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

-- TWO MAJOR DETENTE COMMENTARIES REPORT PUBLIC AND LEADERSHIP SUPPORT FOR THE POLICY IN THE U.S. AND IMPLY THAT CLASS STRUGGLE SHOULD NOT IMPEDE FURTHER PROGRESS;

--NUMEROUS ANGOLA ITEMS REPORT MPLA SUCCESSES AND BLAST SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION, WHICH IS ALLEGED TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE U.S. (SEPTTEL);

-- AN INTERVIEW ON SOVIET-JAPANESE ECONOMIC RELATIONS STRESSES MUTUAL BENEFIT AND LOOKS TOWARD FURTHER GROWTH;

-- LAOTIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PHOUMI VONGVICHIT, WHOSE ARRIVAL WAS NOT REPORTED, ATTENDED A FRIENDSHIP FUNCTION;  
-- S SOVIET PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION COMPLETED VISIT TO THE SUDAN;

-- FINNISH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER SORSA MET WITH PONOMAREV AND GROMYKO.

2. DETENTE/U.S. PRAVDA CARRIES A COMMENTARY FROM ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT G. VASIL'YEV ON THE U.S. VIEW OF DETENTE. THE ITEM REFERS FAVORABLY TO FINDINGS REPORTED BY POLLSTERS GALLUP AND HARRIS AND TO THE NBC TV THREE-HOUR SPECIAL ON AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY IN 1976. THE ARTICLE CITES REMARKS BY PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARY KISSINGER AND NBC COMMENTATORS ON THE NEED TO CONTINUE THE POLICY OF DETENTE, ESPECIALLY ON SALT. THE ITEM IS THE MOST FAVORABLE RECENT SOVIET MEDIA REPORT ON THE U.S. IZVESTIYA ALSO CARRIES A LONG UP-BEAT COMMENTARY ON DETENTE BY V. PAVLOVSKIY WHICH IMPLIES THAT EVEN THE CONTINUATION OF CLASS STRUGGLE SHOULD NOT IMPEDE DETENTE. IN A NEGATIVE ITEM, PRAVDA CARRIES A TASS REPORT FROM NEW YORK ON U.S. PRESS STORIES ABOUT ALLEGED CIA SUPPORT FOR NON-COMMUNIST PARTIES IN ITALY.

3. JAPAN. PRAVDA CARRIES AN ARTICLE ON SOVIET-JAPANESE ECONOMIC TIES BASED ON AN INTERVIEW BETWEEN SOVIET DEPUTY TRADE MINISTER SEMICHASTNOV AND PRAVDA'S TOKYO CORRESPONDENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PONDENT LATYSHEV. THE ARTICLE, WHICH IS A MOOD-SETTER FOR FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO'S ARRIVAL IN TOKYO TOMORROW, OUTLINES THE INCREASES IN TRADE IN RECENT YEARS AND LOOKS AHEAD TO EVEN LARGER INCREASES, SPECIFICALLY IN SIBERIAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

4. LAOS. IZVESTIYA REPORTS THAT LAOTIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PHOUMI VONGVICHIT AND MINISTER OF PRODUCTION AND TRADE MAISUK SAISOMPHONG ATTENDED A MEETING TO MARK THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT. SOVIET MEDIA DID NOT REPORT THE ARRIVAL OR OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE LAOTIAN MINISTERS, BUT UK EMBASSY SAYS PHOUMI RECEIVED BY CC INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR PONOMAREV, AND PRAVDA CARRIED A TASS INTERVIEW WITH PHOUMI WHICH LAUDED SOVIET AID AND SUPPORT FOR THE "LAOTIAN PEOPLE".

5. SUDAN. IZVESTIYA REPORTS THE CONCLUSION OF THE VISIT TO THE SUDAN BY THE DELEGATION FROM THE SUPREME SOVIET HEADED BY DEPUTY CHAIRMAN NIYAZBEKOV. THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE TALKS WAS DESCRIBED AS "FRIENDLY" AND TASS QUOTED THE CHAIRMAN OF SUDAN'S NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT-TAHER AS LOOKING FORWARD TO CLOSER COOPERATION "IN THE STRUGGLE WITH IMPERIALISM AND THE FORCES OF REACTION."

6. FINLAND. IZVESTIYA REPORTS THAT SOVIET POLITBURO CANDIDATE MEMBER PONOMAREV RECEIVED FINNISH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER SORSA IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE FINNISH SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PARTY, WHILE FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO HELD TALKS WITH SORSA IN HIS GOVERNMENT CAPACITY.  
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